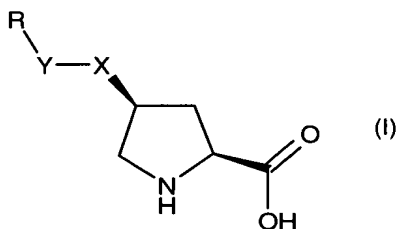


Claims

1. A method of treatment of a mammal, including human, of a disorder selected from epilepsy, faintness attacks, hypokinesia, cranial disorders, neurodegenerative disorders, depression, anxiety, panic, pain, irritable bowel syndrome, sleep disorders, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, neuropathological disorders, visceral pain, functional bowel disorders, inflammatory bowel diseases, pain associated with dysmenorrhea, pelvic pain, cystitis and pancreatitis, comprising effective administration of a compound of formula (I):



wherein

either X is O, S, NH or CH₂ and Y is CH₂ or a direct bond, or Y is O, S or NH and X is CH₂; and

R is a 3-12 membered cycloalkyl, 4-12 membered heterocycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, where any ring may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from

halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, hydroxycarbonyl,

C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkenyl, C₁-C₆ alkynyl,

C₁-C₆ alkoxy, hydroxyC₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxyC₁-C₆ alkyl, perfluoro C₁-C₆ alkyl, perfluoroC₁-C₆ alkoxy,

C₁-C₆ alkylamino, di-C₁-C₆ alkylamino, aminoC₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkylaminoC₁-C₆ alkyl, di-C₁-C₆ alkylaminoC₁-C₆ alkyl,

C₁-C₆acyl, C₁-C₆acyloxy, C₁-C₆acyloxyC₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ acylamino,

C₁-C₆ alkylthio, C₁-C₆ alkylthiocarbonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylthioxo, C₁-C₆ alkoxycarbonyl,

C₁-C₆ alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylsulfonylamino,

aminosulfonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylaminosulfonyl, di-C₁-C₆ alkylaminosulfonyl,

3-8 membered cycloalkyl, 4-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, phenyl and monocyclic heteroaryl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or pro-drug thereof.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein R is an optionally substituted cyclohexyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, isoquinolyl or phenyl group.

3. Method according to claim 2, wherein R is an optionally substituted phenyl group.

4. Method according to claim 1, wherein R is optionally substituted by one or two groups selected from halogen, hydroxy and (C₁-C₆)alkoxy.

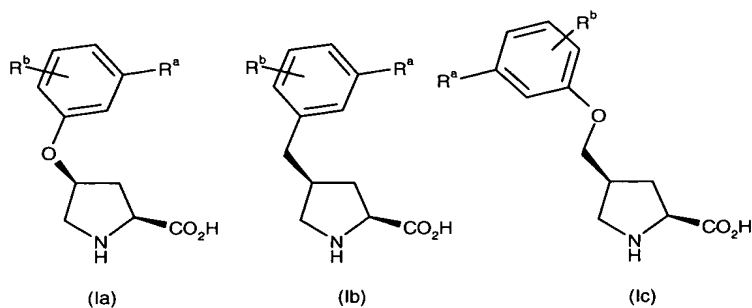
5. Method according to claim 4, wherein R is substituted by one or two groups selected from methoxy, fluoro, chloro and bromo.

6. Method according to claim 1, wherein X is O, S, NH or CH₂ and Y is CH₂ or a direct bond, or X is CH₂ and Y is O.

7. Method according to claim 6, wherein -Y-X- is an oxy, thio, amino methylene, methylenethio, methyleneoxy or oxymethylene link.

8. Method according to claim 7, wherein -Y-X- is an oxy, methylene or oxymethylene link.

9. A compound of formulae (Ia), (Ib) or (Ic):



wherein R^a and R^b are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy cyano, nitro, amino, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkenyl, C₁-C₆ alkynyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy, hydroxyC₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxyC₁-C₆ alkyl, perfluoro C₁-C₆ alkyl, perfluoroC₁-C₆ alkoxy, C₁-C₆ alkylamino, di- C₁-C₆ alkylamino, aminoC₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ alkylaminoC₁-C₆ alkyl, di-C₁-C₆ alkylaminoC₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆acyl, C₁-C₆acyloxy, C₁-C₆acyloxyC₁-C₆ alkyl, C₁-C₆ acylamino, C₁-C₆ alkylthio, C₁-C₆ alkylthiocarbonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylthioxo, C₁-C₆ alkoxycarbonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylsulfonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylsulfonylamino, aminosulfonyl, C₁-C₆ alkylaminosulfonyl, di-C₁-C₆ alkylaminosulfonyl, 3-8 membered cycloalkyl, 4-8 membered heterocycloalkyl, phenyl and monocyclic heteroaryl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or pro-drug thereof

with the proviso that,

for a compound of formulae (Ia) and (Ib), R^a and R^b cannot both be hydrogen and when R^b is a para substituent, R^a cannot be hydrogen,

for a compound of formulae (Ia), when R^a is methylthio, R^b cannot be hydrogen, and

for a compound of formula (Ib), when R^a is methoxy, R^b cannot be hydrogen.

10. A compound selected from:

(2S, 4S)-4-(3-Chloro-phenoxy)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;
(2S,4S)-4-(3-Fluoro-benzyl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;
(2S,4S)-4-(2,3-Difluoro-benzyl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;
(2S,4S)-4-(2,5-Difluoro-benzyl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;
(2S,4S)-4-Cyclohexylmethyl-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;
(2S,4S)-4-(3-Fluoro-phenoxy-methyl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;
(2S,4S)-4-(3,6-Difluoro-phenoxy-methyl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid;
(2S,4S)-4-(2,3-Difluoro-phenoxy-methyl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid; and

(2*S*,4*S*)-4-(3-Methoxy- phoxymethyl)-pyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or pro-drug thereof.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), as described in claim 1, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents or carriers.

12. A combination comprising a compound of formula (I), as described in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or pro-drug thereof, and at least one other therapeutically active agent.

13. A combination according to claim 12, wherein the other therapeutically active agent is a PDEV inhibitor.